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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

FEBRUARY 1985

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

THE ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURE CENSUSES

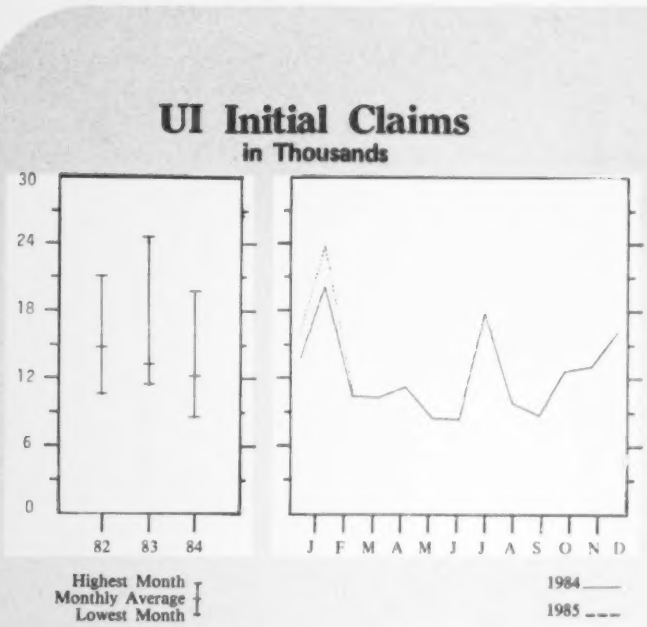
THE 1982 ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURE CENSUSES WERE THE TOPIC AT A TRAINING SESSION ON APRIL 10 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT ORONO. SPONSORED BY THE MAINE CENSUS DATA CENTER PROGRAM OF THE DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH, THE WORKSHOP WAS CONDUCTED BY STAFF FROM THE BOSTON REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU. UMO'S FOGLER LIBRARY, AN AFFILIATE OF THE CENSUS DATA CENTER PROGRAM, HOSTED THE SESSION.

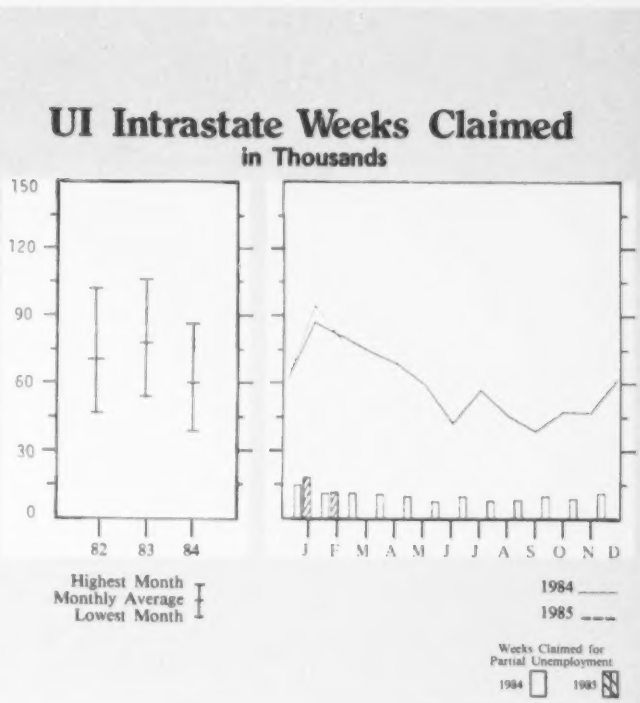
THE ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURE CENSUSES ARE CONDUCTED EVERY FIVE YEARS BY THE CENSUS BUREAU, AND OFFER A DETAILED LOOK AT MAJOR INDUSTRIES AND AGRICULTURE IN EACH STATE AND THE NATION. INDUSTRIES COVERED ARE MANUFACTURING, SERVICES, MINERALS, CONSTRUCTION, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND GOVERNMENT.

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, THE DATA DERIVED FROM THESE CENSUSES ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH STANDARD MEASURES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AS THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT AND THE PRODUCER PRICE INDEX. THEY ARE ALSO VITAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEGISLATION AND POLICIES WHICH AFFECT THE ECONOMY. AT THE STATE LEVEL, THE DATA IS USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH LABOR MARKET INFORMATION BY BUSINESSES TO GAUGE POTENTIAL MARKETS, ESTABLISH SALES TERRITORIES, AND LOCATE NEW PLANTS OR STORES.

THROUGH USE OF THE ECONOMIC CENSUSES AND OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH, A GOOD PICTURE OF THE ECONOMIC TRENDS AFFECTING A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY CAN BE STUDIED. THE 1982 CENSUS OF RETAIL TRADE, FOR EXAMPLE, SHOWS GROWTH IN SALES OF OVER 200 PERCENT BETWEEN 1978 AND 1982 FOR MAIL-ORDER HOUSES IN MAINE. OVER THE SAME TIME PERIOD, SALES IN MAINE'S HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE STORES DECREASED BY 24 PERCENT.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)





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THE TRUCK INVENTORY AND USE SURVEY OF THE 1982 CENSUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDES A WEALTH OF INFORMATION ABOUT TRUCKS REGISTERED IN MAINE. INFORMATION AVAILABLE INCLUDES SIZE, WEIGHT, AGE, AND BODY TYPE OF TRUCKS, AS WELL AS THEIR MAJOR USE, ANNUAL MILEAGE, AND SIZE OF THE FLEET THEY BELONG TO. THIS COULD HELP A MANUFACTURER DETERMINE WHETHER TO PURCHASE TRUCKS OR RELY ON EXISTING CARRIERS FOR TRANSPORTATION TO MARKET.

THE AGRICULTURE CENSUS EXAMINES MAINE FARMS AND FARMING IN GREAT DETAIL. FOR EACH COUNTY AND THE STATE, THE CENSUS LISTS CHARACTERISTICS OF FARMS INCLUDING MARKET VALUE OF LIVESTOCK OR CROPS PRODUCED, EXPENSES, MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT VALUES, AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM OWNER OR OPERATOR. THE 1982 AGRICULTURE CENSUS REPORTED THAT MAINE'S AROOSTOOK COUNTY IS THE NUMBER ONE POTATO PRODUCING COUNTY IN THE NATION, A POSITION IT HAS MAINTAINED FOR OVER 80 YEARS.

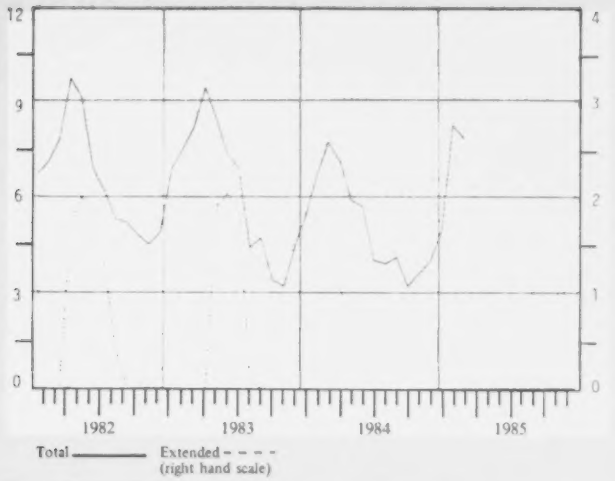
THE ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURE CENSUSES WERE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES IN EACH STATE. THE DATA CAN BE USED TO UNDERSTAND AND ANTICIPATE TRENDS IN BUSINESSES AND THE WHOLE ECONOMY. COPIES OF THE 1982 PUBLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND IN THE GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SECTION OF UMO'S FOGLER LIBRARY, AT THE DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH, OR AT ANY OF THE 28 REGIONAL AFFILIATES OF THE MAINE CENSUS DATA CENTER PROGRAM.

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

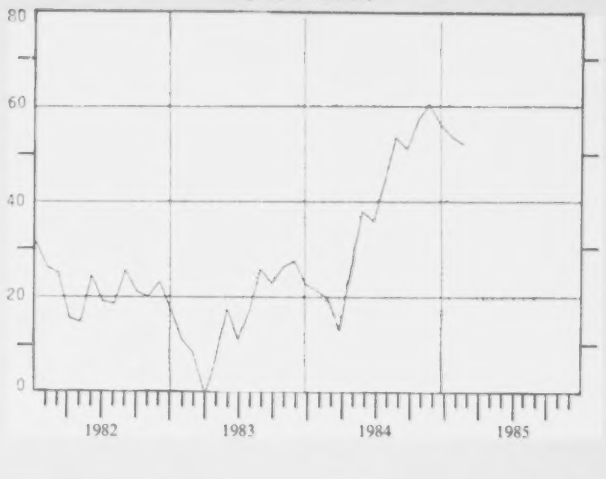
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

in Thousands

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	PORTLAND MSA Last Month	PORTLAND MSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	436.9	434.8	425.1	102.2	101.3	96.6	35.4	35.5	36.0
Total Manufacturing	106.6	107.8	110.2	16.3	16.3	15.5	10.3	10.5	11.6
Durable Goods	45.3	45.4	43.2	8.1	8.1	7.0	2.4	2.4	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	13.9	14.2	13.9	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.8	3.8	3.7	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6
Machinery, except Electrical	4.1	4.1	4.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	10.1	9.8	9.0	3.4	3.4	3.1	0.9	0.9	0.9
Transportation Equipment	9.9	10.0	9.4	(d)	(d)	(d)	*	*	*
Other Durable Goods 3/	3.5	3.5	3.2	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3
Nondurable Goods	61.3	62.4	67.0	8.2	8.2	8.5	7.9	8.1	9.4
Food and Kindred Products	8.1	8.2	7.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.7	0.7	0.8
Textile Mill Products	6.8	6.8	7.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.4	1.4	1.7
Apparel	4.3	4.4	4.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products	17.8	17.8	18.1	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.7	0.7	0.8
Printing and Publishing	4.6	4.7	4.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	4.0	4.1	3.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.7	1.8	1.8
Leather and Leather Products	14.7	15.4	19.3	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.7	2.8	3.6
Footwear (except Rubber)	12.2	12.9	15.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.1	2.2	3.0
Other Leather Products	2.5	2.5	3.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.8	4.8	4.8	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total Nonmanufacturing	330.3	327.0	314.9	85.9	85.0	81.1	25.1	25.0	24.4
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	*	*	*	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	15.9	16.7	15.0	4.9	5.0	4.2	1.2	1.3	1.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	19.1	18.9	18.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Wholesale Trade	20.2	20.1	19.4	7.7	7.7	7.5	1.9	1.9	1.8
Retail Trade	77.7	79.3	72.2	20.8	21.2	19.7	6.3	6.4	6.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	20.3	20.3	18.8	9.1	9.1	8.6	1.9	1.8	1.7
Services	89.3	88.0	84.9	22.9	22.9	21.8	8.9	8.8	8.7
Government	87.7	83.6	86.0	14.9	13.6	13.9	3.6	3.5	3.5
Federal	18.3	18.4	18.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local 5/	69.4	65.2	67.5	13.3	12.0	12.4	3.3	3.2	3.2
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

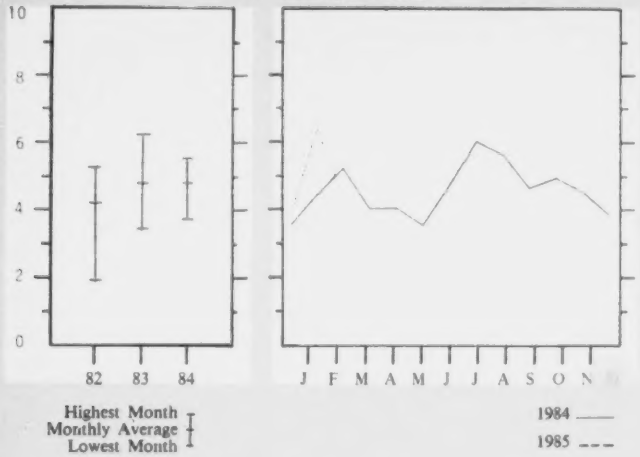
1/Employment figures relate to full - and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 32, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 39 4/Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30; Lewiston - 23, 28, 29. 5/Regular teachers are inlcuded in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 100. (d) Nondisclosure item.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

*Less than 50.

New Applications For Work

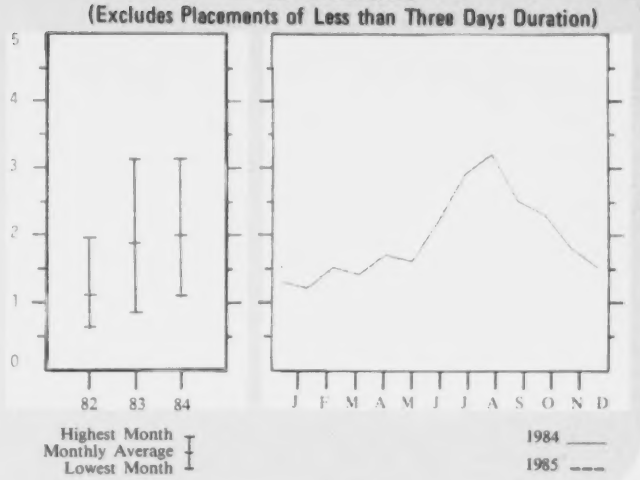
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1984	1983	1982
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$331.69	$334.00	$314.36	39.3	40.0	40.2	$ 8.44	$ 8.35	$ 7.82	$ 8.05	$ 7.61	$ 7.22
Durable Goods	339.23	345.95	324.00	39.4	40.7	40.5	8.61	8.50	8.00	8.22	8.04	7.59
Lumber and Wood Products	312.05	319.56	297.14	39.6	40.4	40.1	7.88	7.91	7.41	7.57	7.37	6.87
Primary and Fabricated Metals	352.15	334.55	327.13	40.9	41.1	41.2	8.61	8.14	7.94	7.89	7.75	7.62
Machinery, except Electrical	372.74	385.90	323.57	41.6	42.5	43.2	8.96	9.08	7.49	8.36	8.08	7.52
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	274.07	301.41	295.87	36.3	39.4	40.2	7.55	7.65	7.36	7.56	7.27	6.74
Other Durable Goods	406.63	410.27	378.68	40.3	41.4	40.2	10.09	9.91	9.42	9.51	9.31	8.84
Nondurable Goods	325.75	324.66	309.17	39.2	39.4	40.1	8.31	8.24	7.71	7.95	7.37	7.00
Food and Kindred Products	223.08	222.40	220.63	33.0	32.0	35.7	6.76	6.95	6.18	6.46	6.10	5.84
Textile Mill Products	272.81	272.84	263.00	42.1	42.9	43.4	6.48	6.36	6.06	6.13	5.87	5.49
Apparel	208.26	204.51	208.68	35.6	34.9	37.6	5.85	5.86	5.55	5.55	5.39	5.23
Paper and Allied Products	539.81	538.90	514.58	45.4	45.4	45.7	11.89	11.87	11.26	11.62	10.95	10.10
Leather and Leather Products	208.98	213.35	211.18	35.3	36.1	36.6	5.92	5.91	5.77	5.80	5.59	5.46
Other Nondurable Goods	283.46	290.38	269.57	38.1	39.4	38.4	7.44	7.37	7.02	7.11	6.60	6.23
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	330.24	336.87	297.89	38.4	39.4	39.3	8.60	8.55	7.58	7.96	7.67	7.19
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	256.36	259.38	246.38	37.7	38.2	38.8	6.80	6.79	6.35	6.58	6.16	5.96

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	232.0	230.0	222.6
Unemployed	15.7	17.7	16.5
(Percent)	6.8%	7.7%	7.4%
Resident Employed	216.3	212.3	206.1

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items	317.4	316.1	306.6	315.5

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.4%
Percent Change from Last December	+0.6%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+3.5%

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1	LABOR FORCE 2			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	536.4	529.4	529.1	499.8	490.9	488.0	36.6	38.5	41.1	6.8	7.3	7.8
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	46,800	45,000	46,100	44,300	42,300	43,300	2,500	2,700	2,800	5.3	6.0	6.1
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	41,700	41,200	42,000	38,200	37,500	38,500	3,500	3,700	3,500	8.4	9.0	8.3
Portland MSA	103,400	101,200	98,600	99,600	96,800	93,500	3,800	4,400	5,100	3.7	4.3	5.2
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA	102,400	103,400	98,100	95,400	96,100	93,000	7,000	7,300	5,100	6.8	7.1	5.2
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	30,480	30,560	30,260	28,620	28,610	28,140	1,860	1,950	2,120	6.1	6.4	7.0
Bath-Brunswick	24,950	25,230	26,070	23,680	23,840	24,430	1,270	1,400	1,640	5.1	5.5	6.3
Belfast	10,910	10,860	10,610	9,200	9,290	9,090	1,710	1,570	1,520	15.7	14.5	14.3
Biddeford	23,120	22,550	22,590	21,760	21,140	20,940	1,360	1,410	1,650	5.9	6.3	7.3
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	7,610	7,940	7,740	6,950	7,230	6,910	660	710	830	8.7	8.9	10.7
Calais-Eastport	14,700	14,400	14,870	13,240	12,900	13,210	1,460	1,500	1,660	9.9	10.5	11.2
Caribou-Presque Isle	21,520	21,100	21,330	19,050	18,570	18,460	2,470	2,530	2,870	11.5	12.0	13.5
Central Penobscot	4,230	3,960	3,940	3,960	3,690	3,680	270	270	260	6.4	6.8	6.6
Dover-Foxcroft	6,580	6,560	6,690	6,180	6,110	6,190	400	450	500	6.1	6.9	7.5
Ellsworth	20,580	20,030	20,350	18,750	18,270	18,460	1,830	1,760	1,890	8.9	8.8	9.3
Farmington	12,860	12,630	13,820	11,720	11,410	12,670	1,140	1,220	1,150	8.9	9.7	8.3
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,480	5,300	5,240	4,970	4,810	4,770	510	490	470	9.3	9.2	9.0
Greenville	1,640	1,630	1,620	1,520	1,490	1,540	120	140	80	7.3	8.6	4.9
Houlton	5,140	5,070	5,090	4,750	4,690	4,580	390	380	510	7.6	7.5	10.0
Lincoln-Howland	6,040	6,120	5,870	5,730	5,760	5,470	310	360	400	5.1	5.9	6.8
Livermore Falls	3,370	3,460	3,550	2,920	3,030	3,090	450	430	460	13.4	12.4	13.0
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,130	4,220	4,250	3,680	3,720	3,700	450	500	550	10.9	11.8	12.9
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,370	5,330	5,260	5,160	5,050	5,020	210	280	240	3.9	5.3	4.6
Norway-Paris	8,870	8,640	9,070	8,010	7,710	8,130	860	930	940	9.7	10.8	10.4
Patten-Island Falls	2,450	2,420	2,420	2,320	2,280	2,220	130	140	200	5.3	5.8	8.3
Rockland	18,180	18,310	18,210	17,020	17,050	16,660	1,160	1,260	1,550	6.4	6.9	8.5
Rumford	9,900	9,780	9,880	9,130	8,910	9,130	820	870	750	8.2	8.9	7.6
Sanford	13,300	13,180	12,620	12,140	12,010	11,670	1,160	1,170	950	8.7	8.9	7.5
Sebago Lakes Region	8,730	8,670	8,730	8,190	8,080	8,170	540	590	560	6.2	6.8	6.4
Skowhegan	20,970	21,450	21,470	18,810	19,270	19,080	2,160	2,190	2,390	10.3	10.2	11.1
Southwest Penobscot	8,440	8,350	8,290	7,540	7,440	7,210	900	910	1,080	10.7	10.9	13.0
Waterville	22,210	21,740	22,250	20,730	20,240	20,610	1,480	1,500	1,640	6.7	6.9	7.4
York-Kittery	22,740	22,490	21,490	22,020	21,640	20,630	720	850	860	3.2	3.8	4.0
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	1,669.3	1,675.1	1,625.5	1,578.6	1,581.9	1,535.4	90.8	93.2	90.1	5.4	5.6	5.5
Massachusetts	3,039.0	3,019.0	2,985.0	2,906.0	2,882.0	2,796.0	133.0	138.0	189.0	4.4	4.6	5.3
New Hampshire	516.7	523.8	500.4	487.0	493.6	476.6	29.7	30.2	23.9	5.7	5.8	4.8
Rhode Island	488.8	491.8	481.6	461.2	465.9	448.2	27.6	25.9	33.4	5.6	5.3	6.9
Vermont	272.6	274.2	268.0	257.7	260.2	250.7	15.0	14.1	17.4	5.5	5.1	6.5
NEW ENGLAND STATES	5,986.6	5,985.0	5,860.6	5,690.5	5,683.6	5,506.9	296.1	301.4	353.7	4.9	5.0	6.0
UNITED STATES 3/	113,592	113,475	111,368	104,690	104,344	101,961	8,902	9,131	9,407	7.8	8.0	8.4

Note

n.a. indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.

Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.

2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.

3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	16,317	16,168	16,353	1,616	1,552	2,006	1,701	1,756	1,449
Insured Unemployment Rate *	3.9	3.9	4.0	1.9	1.8	2.4	5.0	5.2	4.2

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Selected Characteristics Of Unemployment Insurance Claimants

REGULAR PROGRAM 1/

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Professional, Technical, and Managerial	6.5	6.8	8.1
Clerical and Sales	14.5	14.7	16.6
Service	10.7	11.3	11.4
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, and Related	2.2	2.0	2.4
Processing	4.6	4.6	3.7
Machine Trades	12.5	13.8	11.4
Benchwork	11.7	13.4	9.8
Structural Work	21.0	17.4	21.8
Miscellaneous	16.4	16.0	15.8

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

CATEGORY	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Total under 40	60.3	59.1	58.3
Under 22	6.7	6.9	6.8
22-24	11.6	10.8	11.2
25-34	31.4	31.6	30.3
35-39	10.6	10.8	10.0
Total 40 and Over	39.7	40.9	41.7
40-44	7.6	7.6	7.9
45-54	12.2	12.3	12.1
55-64	9.7	10.0	9.7
65 and Over	10.2	11.0	12.0

1/ Data refers to continued claimants who received benefits under the regular state unemployment insurance program.

SUMMARY OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE U.S. AND NEW ENGLAND STATES
FISCAL YEAR 1984
(MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

AREA	RANKING (PER CAPITA)	PER CAPITA (DOLLARS)	TOTAL	GRANTS TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	SALARIES AND WAGES	DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS	PROCUREMENT	OTHER PROGRAMS
U.S. TOTALS	N/A	3,022	724,749	97,209	108,653	325,881	176,470	16,536
CONNECTICUT	7	4,055	12,791	1,221	870	4,199	5,968	533
MAINE	22	2,891	3,541	590	409	1,730	577	55
MASSACHUSETTS	8	3,695	21,422	2,654	1,836	8,685	7,571	676
NEW HAMPSHIRE	19	2,971	2,904	568	489	1,504	710	53
RHODE ISLAND	14	3,099	2,982	548	376	1,566	435	57
VERMONT	35	2,651	1,594	551	137	704	195	27

N/A - NOT APPLICABLE.
SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NEWS, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 29, 1985, P. 4.

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